



What is Project IOWA?

- Project IOWA (Iowa Opportunities for Workplace Advancement) was born out of house meetings held by:



Project IOWA Signing

Our Mission:

“To serve as a bridge between the unemployed and under-employed persons seeking living wage careers and employers seeking workers; thereby transforming lives and benefiting communities.”



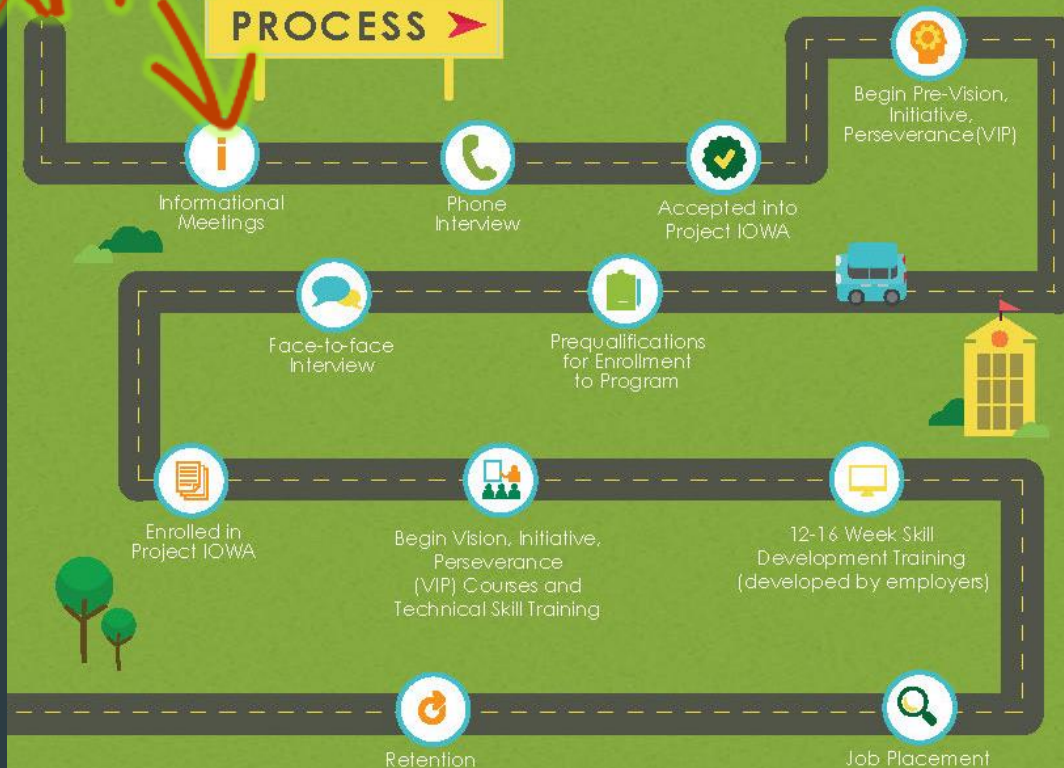


GET ON THE ROAD

TO A CAREER-TRACK, LIVING WAGE,
FULL BENEFIT JOB IN CENTRAL IOWA

Project IOWA is a 21st-century public workforce development initiative designed to improve workforce development efforts and impact systematic change in central Iowa through the following elements:

PROCESS ➤



What we believe at Project IOWA:



Enrollment in Project IOWA!

- ▶ The enrollment IS a process!
 - ▶ A cohort model with 8-12 participants
 - ▶ 12-16 weeks of training
- ▶ Training is four times each week
 - ▶ Approximately four hours per training
 - ▶ Depending on sector chosen



What sets Project IOWA apart from other training programs?

- ▶ Training for industries that are currently hiring
 - ▶ Business Industries
 - ▶ Advanced Manufacturing
- ▶ VIP Training **ONLY available at Project IOWA!**
 - ▶ Sanctuary Model
 - ▶ Values in Action
 - ▶ Emotional Intelligence
 - ▶ Presentation Skills



What makes Project IOWA different?

1. Relationships with Employers

- ▶ Relationships with Employers
 - ▶ Advanced Manufacturing
 - ▶ Industry input
 - ▶ Access to careers available in Iowa
 - ▶ Business Basics
 - ▶ Employer Relations Committee
 - ▶ Looking to increase the number of employee partners
 - ▶ Qualifications
 - ▶ Hiring, wages, and location

Our employer partners guarantee our participants
an interview when they are hiring!



Our Employer Partners are:

- ▶ Bridgestone



- ▶ Vermeer Manufacturing



- ▶ Mercy Medical Center



- ▶ ALMACO



- ▶ EFCO



- ▶ ACH



- ▶ General Mills



- ▶ Barilla



- ▶ Sargent



- ▶ Iowa Laborers Union



What makes Project IOWA different?

2. Vision, Initiative, and Perseverance

- ▶ Working on the “core skills” employers are seeking
 - ▶ Goal Setting (SMART goals)
 - ▶ Emotional Management skills
 - ▶ Establishing an accurate self assessment
 - ▶ Increasing self-confidence
 - ▶ Effective communication skills
 - ▶ Work place behaviors and expectations including attitude, ability to work in a team, attendance, and self-confidence
 - ▶ Resume writing/Interviewing skills
 - ▶ Transformational

Transformational

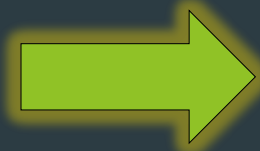
Pre-VIP: 4 week difference
Carlos Muniz



What makes Project IOWA different?

3. Wrap Around Support

- ▶ Successful job placement & retention is our goal.
 - Work place culture and fit
- We offer extensive wrap-around services.
 - 1-on-1 coaching
 - Placement Assistance



Economic Impact

- ▶ Wage increase pre/post Project IOWA
 - ▶ Pre-Project IOWA hourly wage: \$3.56
 - ▶ Post-Project IOWA hourly wage: \$14.34
 - ▶ Increase of \$10.78 an hour
 - ▶ OR
 - ▶ **\$22,422.00 annually per graduate**
 - ▶ **\$3,991,116 annual impact of Project IOWA Graduate's increase in wage**
- ▶ 57% of our graduates were unemployed before starting our program
 - ▶ The economic impact of just this 57% of graduations puts \$3,012,547.20 back into the Iowa Economy

Economic Impact Cont.

▶ Benefits

- ▶ Before Project IOWA: 16 individuals indicated they had employment that offered benefits
- ▶ After Project IOWA: 126 graduates now have employment that offers benefits

▶ Health Insurance

- ▶ 21 people did not have health insurance stating PI
- ▶ 51 people were receiving public health insurance benefits

▶ Receiving Unemployment Benefits

- ▶ 17 people

▶ 9 graduates were receiving Section 8 Housing assistance before Project IOWA

▶ 67% of participants were receiving SNAP food assistance benefits before Project IOWA

Indirect Benefits of Project IOWA

- ▶ 53 graduates were considered “homeless” prior to project Iowa - indicating they were living in shelters or with friends or relatives
- ▶ Generational Impact: Project IOWA Graduates impacted 135 Iowa children who were under the poverty level before their parents began this program
- ▶ 12 of our graduates are veterans
- ▶ 16 of our graduates have a disability

New Data We Are Collecting

▶ College/Student Debt

- ▶ People who have debt: 62/102
 - ▶ 9 unknown amounts in \$
- ▶ Total Debt: \$645,372.00
- ▶ Debt on avg. per person: \$10,409.23

▶ Criminal Background Debt

- ▶ Responded: 36/87
 - ▶ 8 unknown amounts in \$
- ▶ Total Debt: \$336,225.00
- ▶ Debt on avg. per person: \$9,339.58

Incarceration, Criminal Backgrounds, & ACES

- ▶ 64% of our graduates have some time of criminal charge on their background
 - ▶ 30% of those have been convicted of a felony
 - ▶ 19% have been incarcerated (34 graduates)
 - ▶ Of those who have been incarcerated: on average our graduates have served 3 years in prison
 - ▶ Longest term served: 13 years
- ▶ ACES Scores
 - ▶ Average lowans: 12.5% have 4 or more ACES
 - ▶ Project IOWA Graduates: 35.2% have 4 or more ACES

Testimonials from Businesses

- ▶ “Project IOWA is a great way for employers to hire the best candidates the area has to offer. Project IOWA gears their classes towards what the employer needs with the results being positive and rewarding for both the candidate and employer”

- Kemin Industries



- ▶ “Project IOWA’s concentrated focus on technical training produces candidates with more of the desired skills I am looking for when hiring. With Project IOWA candidates, I feel like I’m already one step ahead in the hiring process”

- ▶ - Hiring Manager at EFCO



Testimonials from Graduates

- ▶ Project IOWA offered me the opportunity to learn some advanced manufacturing and welding skills. With this (training) I am able to fulfill my dreams of bright and prosperous future.
 - ▶ Clifford Salmond; Bridgestone
 - ▶ Graduated: 2/19/2013
 - ▶ Employed: 2/25/2013 - Nearing two years with Bridgestone!
- ▶ “I was recently recommended for a new position by my supervisor that is incentive based and with limited supervision. My supervisor said I was perfect for the job because I am reliable, hardworking and trustworthy.”
 - ▶ Martell Coleman; EFCO
 - ▶ Graduated: 7/7/2014
 - ▶ Employed: 9/1/2014 - Nearing 6 months with EFCO!

Project IOWA Outcomes

- ▶ Broken down by sectors of training
 - ▶ Healthcare
 - ▶ Placements: 20/24, 83%
 - ▶ Average Wages: \$12.60
 - ▶ Total Advancements: 13
 - ▶ Financial Services
 - ▶ Placements: 5/12, 42% (recent graduation)
 - ▶ Average Wages: \$14.38
 - ▶ Total Advancements: 0
 - ▶ Advanced Manufacturing
 - ▶ Placements: 108/152, 71%
 - ▶ Average Wages: \$14.67
 - ▶ Total Advancements: 72

Outcomes

178 participants trained

- ▶ Graduation Rate: 92%
- ▶ Placement Rate: 71%
- ▶ Retention Rate: 71%
- ▶ 85 Advancements overall

Budget

▶ FY- 2014

- ▶ \$50,000 for operations and \$50,000 was spent on training.
- ▶ Total expenses= \$448,029.98

▶ FY- 2015

- ▶ \$50,000 for operations and \$50,000 was spent on training.
- ▶ Total expenses= \$745,239.00

▶ FY- 2016

- ▶ \$50,000 for operations and \$50,000 was spent on training.
- ▶ Total expenses= \$781,254.00

Funding Sources for Future

- ▶ 1/3 Private/ Foundations

- ▶ 1/3 Public

- ▶ 1/3 Business Partners

